

## Administrative Office of the Courts

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Press Release Date: May 19, 2008

Event Date: Friday, May 30, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.

**Location: Houlton Courthouse** 

## PRESS RELEASE Houlton Courthouse

On Friday, May 30, at 11:00 a.m., Chief Justice Leigh Saufley will preside at a ceremony at the Houlton Courthouse, marking the beginning of the renovation project at the County Courthouse in Houlton. The State Legislature has authorized the expenditure of \$2.5 million for renovations that will result in improved public space and accommodations throughout the building, the creation of a second courtroom and judges chambers, and a consolidated clerk's office located on the second floor of the building.

This project is being carried out in conjunction with Aroostook County and its commissioners. The County is working closely with the State to oversee the planning and the implementation of this building project. The support of Aroostook County's Legislators was critical in locating and maintaining the funding to complete the project.

On a temporary basis during construction, the District Court will return to its former quarters across the street from the County Courthouse. At the end of the construction period, the Superior Court and District Court will share the clerk's office and courtroom facilities on the second floor of the County Courthouse.

In addition to the creation of the new courtroom and offices, numerous improvements and upgrades will be made to the facility including the installation of a new elevator and improvements to make the building accessible to those persons who are handicapped.

The project will be completed in approximately nine months.

Immediately following the Chief Justice's remarks, tours of the area to be renovated will be provided.